IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraphs on page 3, line 21 through page 4, line 26 as follows:

_____Accordingly in a first aspect the invention consists in a breathing assistance apparatus adapted to deliver humidified gases at a desired level of humidity or at a desired temperature to a patient using open loop control comprising:

a humidifier having an electrical input power and capable of humidifying said gases up to a level of humidity prior to delivery to said patient, said level of humidity depending on said input power to said humidifier,

and

a controller or processor configured or programmed to:

(a) determine a parameter relating to the flow rate of said gases through said apparatus;

(b) determine based on at least said parameter the required electrical power input to said humidifier to deliver said gases to said patient at a level of humidity or at a temperature substantially similar to said desired level of humidity or said desired temperature;

(c) supply as said input power to said humidifier a level of power substantially similar to said determined power input to said humidifier.

_____In a second aspect the invention consists in a breathing assistance apparatus adapted to deliver humidified gases at a desired level of humidity or at a desired temperature to a patient comprising:

a humidifier having an electrical input power capable of humidifying said gases up to a level of humidity prior to delivery to said patient, said level of humidity depending on said input power to said humidifier,

a conduit for conveying said humidified gases from said humidifier to said patient, and

a conduit heater having an electrical input power, and being associated with said conduit wherein the gases flowing through said conduit are heated either directly or indirectly by said conduit heater ~~whereby~~ wherein the level of heating ~~depending~~ depends on said input power to said conduit heater;

a controller or processor which ~~supply~~ supplies said input power to said humidifier and said conduit heater, and ~~providing~~ provides a control output indicative of said conduit heater being correctly connected to said controller or processor and capable of operating in according within predefined limits; and

a connector ~~means~~ to electrically connect said controller or processor and said conduit heater and including an indicator in use connected to said control output, wherein when said conduit heater is ~~being~~ correctly connected to said controller or processor and capable of operating in according within predefined limits said controller or processor ~~energising~~ energises said indicator.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, lines 6-25 as follows:

In a fourth aspect the invention consists in a method of connecting a conduit heater within a conduit to a humidifier comprising the steps of:

providing an electrical connection between said conduit heater and said humidifier; and

indicating whether conduit heater is ~~being~~ correctly connected and capable of operating in according within predefined limits.

In a fifth aspect the invention costs in a breathing assistance apparatus adapted to deliver humidified gas at a desired level of humidity or at a desired temperature to a patient using open loop control comprising:

humidifier means having an electrical input power and capable of humidifying said gas up to a level of humidity prior to delivery to said patient, said level of humidity depending on said input power to said humidifier,

means for determining a parameter relating to the flow rate of said gas through said apparatus;

means for determining based on at least said parameter the required electrical power input to said humidifier to deliver said gas to said patient at a level of humidity or at a temperature substantially similar to said desired level of humidity or said desired temperature;

means for supplying as said input power to said humidifier a level of power substantially similar to said determined power input to said humidifier.